

October 27, 1951.

Dr. B. Wesley Catlin,  
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Dear Wes-

Thank you for the information in your letter of the 21st.

It begins to look as if we've hit the "Center of Origin" of fertile E. coli. The cultures you sent have given the most remarkable proportion of interfertile types, and the more I study them, the more are found to be capable of recombination. I would not ask you this otherwise, but under the circumstances, would it be possible for me to have access to the entire collection, with sufficient records so that all of them could be recognized as coming from particular patients at particular times? I know how thoroughly tied up with teaching you must be at this time, and I await your suggestion on how we could arrange this with the least inconvenience to yourself.

Do I understand correctly that none of the cultures have been typed (unless starred) except as not reacting with certain specific sera?

If new isolations are being made, I wonder if I could have a sort of mixed inoculum, i.e., a direct slant of the original specimen, from which I could hunt out as many cultural types for our own pupppes as we could recognize.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg